

GEOG*1300
INTRODUCTION TO THE BIOPHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT
DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY, ENVIRONMENT AND GEOMATICS
Provisional Course Outline- Winter 2019

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Office Hours:
Prerequisite: None

Course Description:

An introduction to physical geography. The principles and processes governing climate, landforms, and vegetation systems and interrelationships. Natural and human-induced changes to environmental systems. Laboratories will address techniques of measurement, representation and analysis of environmental systems through maps, remotely sensed images, laboratory and field observations.

Course Objectives: The **aim of this course** is to introduce the components of the Earth's natural systems as studied by physical geographers through the processes, interactions and flows of energy between of the atmosphere, hydrosphere, lithosphere and biosphere. The surface of the Earth, is an extremely dynamic environment where forces and processes driven by internal and external sources of energy interact to create climate, landforms and landscapes. The effects of solar energy, climate, tectonic activity, gravity, weathering, erosion and sediment transport will be discussed within the context of physical geography. While much of the material covered will be descriptive, rather than mathematical, students are reminded that Physical Geography is a quantitative science and some of the material in this course draws upon basic science theory and relationships. From time to time simple numerical relationships will be introduced and you will be expected to solve simple problems in lab assignments and on the final exam.

Course Organization and Presentation:

Lectures for GEOG*1300 are scheduled for Tuesdays 7-9:50PM:30-9:20AM. In addition to the lectures, there are 2-hour lab sessions **most** weeks that students must attend.

There is a courselink page for this course and there you will find class announcements, lecture notes, lab assignment questions and solutions, discussion forums, grades, test information and midterms.

Students are expected to take notes in class to supplement the posted lecture material. It is highly recommended that you print the course notes and bring them with you to class. If you are unable to attend class for any reason it is your responsibility to get the notes from one of your classmates. Lectures may include occasional guest lectures and selected multimedia material.

Students are required to pay a lab fee of \$10.00 in the first week of labs to cover the cost of the Lab materials and transportation for the field trip.

Required eBook:

Christopherson, R.W. and Byrne, M., (2018) ***Geosystems: An Introduction to Physical Geography, 4th Canadian Edition***

Method of Evaluation:

Labs 24%

Mid-term 30%

Final Exam 40%

Lecture Component 6% (Mastering Geography)

-In- class completed activities count towards a participation & correctness score (50% participation and 50% correctness).

Lab assignments are due one week after your scheduled lab. The **late penalty for labs is 25% per day**, so it is best to get them in on time. If you have a legitimate reason for an extension you must contact your GTA and negotiate for a new deadline **before your assignment is due**.

Copies of submitted Lab Assignments: Keep paper and/or other reliable back-up copies of all lab assignments: you may be asked to resubmit work at any time.

Term Tests and Final Exam: An announcement will be made in class regarding the scope of material for the term tests. The final exam will cover all material taught in the course.

You must pass the test component to pass the course. This means getting a total of 35 points out of 70. If you do not, your final grade will be the percentage obtained on the test component.

Expectations:

Students are expected to be respectful of their peers, GTAs, and the course instructor (i.e., if you wish to talk with your friends, check or post in your social media accounts, or use your cell phone please do so outside of class).

Lectures are intended to supplement the assigned readings, so students should review this material **prior** to class. Some in-class participation discussions will be based on assigned readings, and these *must* be completed before class.

Accessibility: The University of Guelph is committed to creating a barrier-free environment. Providing services for students is a shared responsibility among students, faculty and administrators. This relationship is based on respect of individual rights, the dignity of the individual and the University community's shared commitment to an open and supportive learning environment. Students requiring service or accommodation, whether due to an identified, ongoing disability or a short-term disability should contact the Centre for Students with Disabilities as soon as possible.

For more information, contact SAS at 519-824-4120 ext. 56208 or email csd@uoguelph.ca or see the [web-site](#).

Academic Misconduct: The University of Guelph is committed to upholding the highest standards of academic integrity and it is the responsibility of all members of the University community – faculty, staff, and students – to be aware of what constitutes academic misconduct and to do as much as possible to prevent academic offences from occurring. University of Guelph students have the responsibility of abiding by the University's policy on academic misconduct regardless of their location of study; faculty, staff and students have the responsibility of supporting an environment that discourages misconduct. Students need to remain aware that instructors have access to and the right to use electronic and other means of detection.

Please note: Whether a student intended to commit academic misconduct is not relevant for a finding of guilt. Hurried or careless submission of lab assignments does not excuse students from responsibility for verifying the academic integrity of their work before submitting it. Students who are in any doubt as to whether an action on their part could be construed as an academic offence should consult with a faculty member or faculty advisor.

The Academic Misconduct Policy is detailed in the Undergraduate Calendar. If you are unfamiliar with these policies please visit the [website](#).

Recording of Materials: Presentations which are made in relation to course work - including lectures - cannot be recorded or copied without the permission of the presenter, whether the instructor, a classmate or guest lecturer. Material recorded with permission is restricted to use for that course unless further permission is granted.

Resources: The Academic Calendars are the source of information about the University of Guelph's procedures, policies and regulations which apply to undergraduate, graduate and diploma programs.